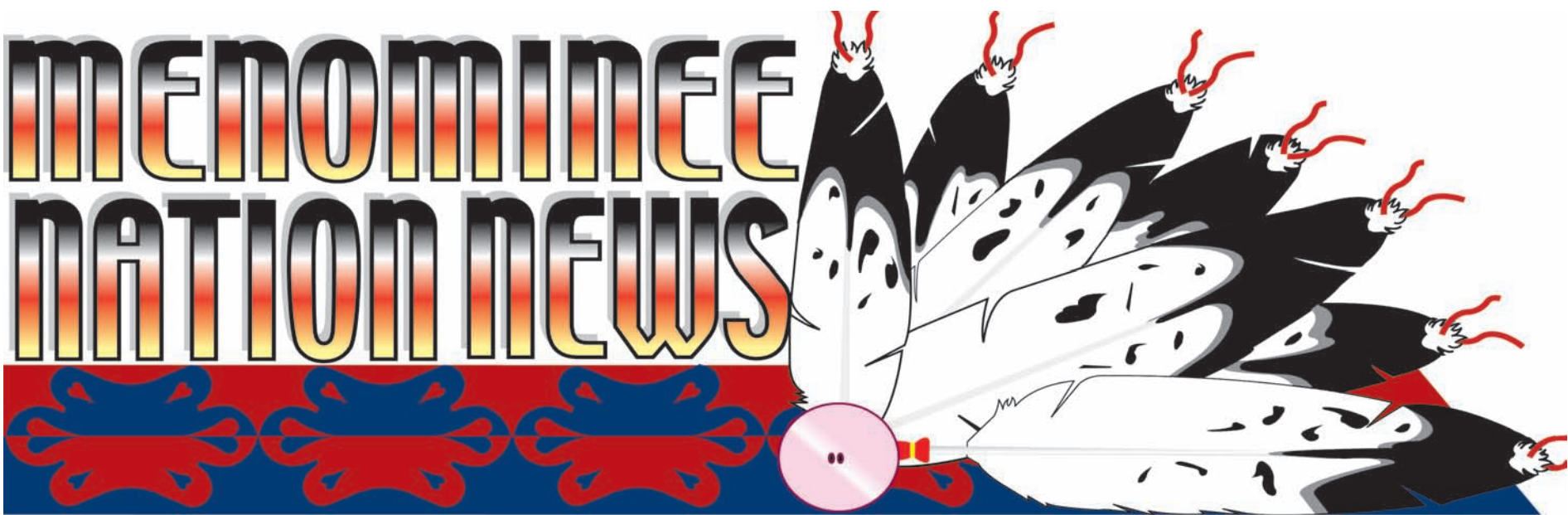


# MEMOMINEE NATION NEWS



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## Hawpetoss sentenced to five life terms, two 20 year terms

**Submitted Article**  
*US Department of Justice*

On October 21, 2005, Robert Michael Hawpetoss, DOB 4/4/40 was sentenced by the Honorable William C. Griesebach, federal district court judge, Green Bay Division. Hawpetoss was sentenced to five life terms and two twenty year terms of imprisonment following his multiple convictions for sexual abuse.

Five victims, ranging in age from 14 years to 41 years, testified about the sexual abuse they suffered at the hands of Hawpetoss.

Hawpetoss was convicted of attempting to sexually assault a minor under the age of 12 years. This charge stemmed from an attempt by Hawpetoss to pull an eight year old girl into the woods off Max Martin road on the Menominee Indian Reservation on September of 1999 in an attempt to sexually assault her. The young girl was able to break free from Hawpetoss' grasp and she ran almost two miles to a highway where two cars stopped to help her.

See **HAWPETOSS** pg.

## College of Menominee Nation Opens Green Bay Campus



*Contributed photo/College of Menominee Nation*

**Pictured above is the new College of Menominee Nation Green Bay Campus site. CMN is becoming more multicultural and intertribal as it continues to grow and reach diverse populations.**

**Marci Hawpetoss**  
*Menominee Nation News*

"OPEN TO ALL!" read a sign at the College of Menominee Nation's grand opening for its Green Bay campus. This celebration reflected the multiculturalism that is embedded in the College of Menominee Nation (CMN). The Oneida Nation and Menominee Nation were well represented in terms of students, community members, CMN staff,

CMN Board of Directors and elected officials.

Dr. Donna Powless held the honor of Mistress of Ceremony. As she welcomed everyone, Dr. Powless introduced David 'Nahwahquaw' Grignon of the Menominee Historic Preservation Department. He was asked to give the invocation. Before giving a prayer in the Menominee language, Grignon reminded the people that CMN Green Bay Campus has been built on the "ancestral lands of

the Menominee people."

Also present was the College of Menominee Nation President, Dr. Verna Fowler; Menominee Tribal Legislators, Gary Besaw and Stephanie Awonohopay, and CMN Board of Directors Lorene Poca, Virginia Nuske and Ben Kaquatosh were also in attendance.

See **CMN** pg.

## Ghosts and goblins visit Menominee Tribal Offices



*R. Penass/Menominee Nation News*

**A class from the Keshena Head Start trick or treated at the Menominee Tribal Offices on Monday, October 31, 2005. Shown above the students receive treats from the Tribal Enrollment office.**

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## **Hawpetoss continued from pg 1**

A search was conducted in the area of Max Martin road in an attempt to locate Hawpetoss. A canine was used in the search but lost the scent in the marsh. It took more than five years to locate and arrest Hawpetoss. He was apprehended by the Oneida Tribal Police on December 5, 2004 after an individual contacted the police to let them know that Hawpetoss was wanted on a federal warrant.

Hawpetoss was also convicted for the sexual abuse of two children, These incidents of assault took place from 1985 through 1993. The victims, now adults, testified to the ongoing sexual abuse by Hawpetoss over many years. They also testified about the direct threats from Hawpetoss that he would kill them if they ever told anyone of the sexual abuse.

In addition to the testimony of the charged victims, the jury heard from two additional victims Hawpetoss had assaulted in the mid-seventies. One testified that in approximately 1973, Hawpetoss sexually assaulted him on two occasions while Hawpetoss was living with the boy's mother. Another testified that in approximately 1975, Hawpetoss sexually assaulted him on two occasions, These incidents were beyond the statute of limitations but they were allowed to testify to show Hawpetoss' propensity to commit sexual acts against young children. One boy had been threatened with a knife by Hawpetoss to remain silent.

When Judge Griesebach sentenced Hawpetoss to life in prison the judge stated that the sadistic and cruel behavior exhibited by Hawpetoss was something that he had not seen before. The judge further said this was the most horrible case that he had seen with the number of victims, the degree and the frequency of the sexual assaults. The judge said that the "darkness and evil on the part of the defendant has left lifetime scars on the victims." Judge Griesebach concluded Hawpetoss was beyond any hope of treatment and felt the only way to protect society from this defendant was to make certain he spent the rest of his life in prison.

The case was investigated by the FBI in Green Bay, Wisconsin with the assistance of the Menominee Tribal Police Department and the Menominee Sheriff's Department. This case was prosecuted by the United States Attorney's Office Eastern District of Wisconsin by Assistant United States Attorneys Penny Coblentz and Carol L. Kraft.

## **College of Menominee Nation Opens Green Bay Campus**

Dr. Fowler greeted everyone and spoke about her vision for the college, and the other visionaries who are responsible for CMN's success. "Most academic institutions are designed to 'weed' students out. The College of Menominee Nation is committed to helping its students through the educational process."

Student Speaker, Gina Gregor spoke about the expansion of the College of Menominee Nation since she began her college career. "I remember when everything was in one building, now we have a Green Bay Campus in addition to all the buildings and programs on the Menominee Campus."

The ribbon cutting, which signifies the opening of a new facility, was preformed by CMN President Verna Fowler and CMN Board of Director Ben Kaquatosh, along with other dignitaries that have been instrumental in CMN's continued success.

College of Menominee Nation, Green Bay, serves 80% of Oneida's higher education students. As the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin Chairman, Gerald L. Danforth explained, "When I asked where all the students attend college, the response was overwhelmingly the College of Menominee Nation."

This was reflected in the balance of Menominee and Oneida Cultural practices that led the grand opening in a meaningful way. Wind Eagle Singers from the Menominee Nation, and Straight Across Singers from the Oneida Nation took turns as they sang an opening song, honor song and a traveling song.

In closing, Oneida Nation Language Instructor, Randi Cornelias spoke about living in harmony with all of creation. He spoke about love, truth and respect and its role in balancing the physical and spiritual elements of all of creation. Randi also shared a few words in the Oneida Language to close the celebration.

A feast followed the opening ceremonies, and a cake was cut in commemoration of this great stride forward in Indian Country. Tours of the new facilities were given at that time. It was great to see so many representatives from all walks of life celebrating higher education.